

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 were presented for examination. The Office has issued a restriction, noting three claim groups: Group I, which includes claims 1 through 3, drawn to a bandgap voltage generator, Group II, which includes claims 4 through 6, drawn to a reference voltage divider, and Group III, which includes claims 7 through 20, drawn to a voltage generator. The applicant hereby reaffirms the provisional election of Group III made during a telephone call between the examiner and Jason Paul DeMont on August 26, 2004.

Claims 1 through 6 are withdrawn from consideration, without prejudice, and the applicants reserves the right to re-present these claims in this or in another application.

Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claims 9 and 10.

Claim 9 and 10 have been canceled, and claims 11, 12, and 13 have been amended to reflect their new dependence on claim 7.

Claim 14 was objected to by the Office. Claim 14 has been rewritten to correct a typographical error that was noted by the Examiner, and the applicant wishes to thank Examiner Tra for his careful proofreading of the claim.

The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of Claims 7, 8 and 11 through 20 in light of the amendments and the following comments.

Examiner's Objection to Claim 14

Claim 14 was objected to by the examiner due to an inadvertent inclusion of the word "and". Claim 14 has been amended accordingly, and, therefore, the applicants respectfully submit that the objection has been overcome.

35 U.S.C. 102 Rejection of Claims 7 through 11 and 13 through 16

Claims 7 through 11 and 13 through 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by P.M. Mosinskis, et al., US Patent: 6,529,563, issued March 4, 2003 (hereinafter "Mosinskis"). Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 9 and 10, and claims 9 and 10 have been canceled. The applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, overcome the rejection.

Claim 7, as amended, recites:

7. An apparatus comprising:

a bandgap reference voltage generator having an output terminal;

an operational amplifier having a positive input terminal, a negative input terminal, and an output terminal, wherein the positive input terminal of said operational amplifier is electrically connected to the output terminal of said bandgap reference voltage generator;

a transistor having a gate, a source, and a drain, wherein the gate of said transistor is electrically connected to the output of said operational amplifier, and wherein the drain of said transistor is electrically connected to the negative input terminal of said operational amplifier;

a voltage divider having a input terminal, an output terminal, and a common terminal, wherein said input terminal of said voltage divider is electrically connected to the negative input terminal of said operational amplifier;

a startup network having a positive supply terminal and an output terminal, wherein said output terminal of said startup network is electrically connected to said input terminal of said voltage divider; and

a self-biasing network having a positive supply terminal, a common terminal, and an output terminal, wherein said positive supply terminal of said self-biasing network is electrically connected to said output terminal of said startup network, and wherein said common terminal of said self-biasing network is electrically connected to said common terminal of said voltage divider.

(emphasis supplied)

Nowhere does Mosinskis teach or suggest, alone or in combination with the other references, what claim 7 recites – namely that **the positive supply terminal of said self-biasing network is electrically connected to said output terminal of said startup network**.

In the rejection of claim 10, the Office cites Mosinskis Figure 3 as showing a self-biasing network (334, 350, 354, 344) having a positive supply terminal (positive terminal of 334) that is electrically connected to the output terminal of the startup network (378, 374), as is shown the applicant's invention. In the rejection of Claim 9, the Office correctly cites that the output of the startup network is electrically connected to the **INPUT** terminal of voltage divider (R3, R4). Therefore, according to the examiner's rejection of Claim 10, the positive terminal of 334 should also be connected to the **INPUT** terminal of the voltage divider.

Referring to Mosinskis Figure 3, however, the positive supply terminal of 334 is electrically connected to **OUTPUT** terminal of the voltage divider, while the output terminal of the startup network is electrically connected to the **INPUT** terminal of the voltage divider.

For this reason, the applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 7 is overcome.

Because claims 8, 11, and 13 through 16 depend upon claim 7, the applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of them are also overcome.

35 U.S.C. 103 Rejection of Claims 17 through 19

Claims 17 through 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over P.M. Mosinskis in view of Connell, et al., U.S. Patent 6,441,594, issued August 27, 2002 (hereinafter " Connell ").


Claims 17 through 19 are dependent upon amended claim 7, and Connell does not cure the deficiency of Mosinskis as it relates to claim 7. Therefore the applicant respectfully submits the rejection of them is overcome.

Request for Reconsideration Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Having responded to each and every ground for objection and rejection in the Office action mailed September 1, 2004, applicants request reconsideration of the instant application pursuant to 37 CFR 1.111 and request that the Examiner allow all of the pending claims and pass the application to issue.

Should there remain unresolved issues the applicant respectfully requests that Examiner telephone the applicants' attorney at 732-578-0103 x11 so that those issues can be resolved as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,
DeMont & Breyer, LLC

By 
Jason Paul DeMont
Reg. No. 35793
Attorney for Applicants
732-578-0103 x11

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DeMont & Breyer, L.L.C.
Suite 250
100 Commons Way
Holmdel, NJ 07733